



A year of supporting education in the region

April 2, 2018

As we rush towards the end of the school year – can we really be done with spring break already? – it's a good time to look back on all the K-12 education programs we at the Laboratory have been lucky enough to be a part of this year.

From [Robotics Night](#) at the Bradbury Science Museum back in August, to last month's [RoboRave](#) at Northern New Mexico College and from the [Electric Car Challenge](#) to the [Future City competition](#) in February, the Laboratory has supported a range of STEM education initiatives across the region. Congratulations to the teams from Española Middle School that took home awards at both the Electric Car Challenge and the RoboRave.

The [Hour of Code](#) event saw 65 Laboratory volunteers help over 100 classes with coding challenges at schools serving the communities in Santa Fe, Taos, Española, Los Alamos, Santa Ana, Ohkay Owingeh, Cuba, Chimayo, Pojoaque, and Dixon. The [Expanding Your Horizons conference](#) from STEM Santa Fe brought nearly 200 girls together in October to experience STEM careers first-hand.

The 28th annual [Supercomputing Challenge](#) culminates at the Expo and Awards Ceremony April 23-24, celebrating the work of students from over 30 schools across the state.

The announcement of the Northern New Mexico Regional [Partnership School Initiative](#) with Pojoaque Valley School District and New Mexico Highlands University in October 2017 also marked an important phase in the development of the Laboratory's K20 education outreach.

Our goal is clear – to support initiatives that have a positive impact on student achievement and also address workforce needs. This benefits the Laboratory and the region as a whole. We seek to multiply the impact of our investment by partnering with other organizations that share this goal and have skills and expertise that complement what we can offer.

As educators enter the last busy weeks of school, we're grateful for their efforts year-round on behalf of Northern New Mexico's children, and are very happy we've been able to help them throughout the year.

And finally, a word of congratulations to the middle school and high school teams from Los Alamos which won their respective categories in the DOE Regional Science Bowl.

Good luck to both teams traveling to the national competitions in Washington, DC at the end of April to represent New Mexico!

—Kathy Keith

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